

U.S. Denies Conceding 'Bugs' in Black's Case

Solicitor General Thurgood Marshall has denied the Government conceded anything in its tax evasion case against Fred B. Black Jr. when his office admitted to the Supreme Court that the FBI had bugged Black's Washington, D.C., hotel room.

Black, a public relations man and one-time associate of Bobby Baker, former secretary to the Senate's Democrats, is appealing his conviction to the Supreme Court. He was fined \$10,000 and sentenced to from 15 months to four years for allegedly not reporting \$140,087 as taxable income in 1956-58.

Black had charged in May that the Government had bugged not only his hotel room but also his home and office.

In supplying further information to the Supreme Court, Marshall said in a letter yesterday that the Justice Department answered only the ques-

tions asked it by the justices. These questions related only to the bugging of a Washington hotel room. But Black contended that by not denying that the FBI bugged his home and office, the Justice Department conceded that was done.

Marshall wrote, "This letter is written to advise the court that the United States has certainly made no concession, either expressly or by implication."

"If (Black) wishes to press claims relating to the conduct of the trial which are not based upon facts of record and have not been the subject of any concession by the Government, this, we would respectfully suggest to the court, provides an added reason for the adoption of the procedure which we have heretofore suggested, namely, a full exploration of all the relevant facts at an appropriate hearing in the U.S. District Court."